

REMARKS

Re-examination and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the materials cited in the

Information Disclosure Statement that was filed on August 3, 2005. However, the Examiner has

inadvertently failed to acknowledge Applicants' claim for foreign priority and that the certified

copy of the priority document has been received. The Examiner is respectfully requested to

indicate such in the next official communication.

In addition, the Examiner has not indicated the acceptability of the filed drawings.

Absent an indication by the Examiner in the next official communication, Applicants believe the

filed drawings to be acceptable.

The Examiner indicated that claims 4-8 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a

rejected base claim, but that these claims would be allowable if they are amended to be placed in

independent form. Applicant wishes to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the

patentability of these claims. While Applicants do not disagree with the Examiner's indication that

certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, as noted by the Examiner, Applicants

wish to clarify that the claims in the present application recite a combination of features, and the

basis for patentability of these claims is based on the totality of the features recited therein.

As will be discussed below, Applicants amend claims 5 and 7 to place them in independent form, including substantially all the limitations of base claim 1, and amend the dependency of claims 6 and 8. Claim 19 is not amended, as it now depends from amended claim 1, to be discussed below.

Claims 23-51 are canceled in view of the finality of the restriction requirement. However, Applicants expressly reserve the right to submit similar type claims in another application.

Claims 1-3 (inadvertently noted as claims 1-4), 9-18 and 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,783,227 to SUZUKI et al. In this regard, while paragraph 3 of the Detailed Action portion of the Office Action states that claim 4 is rejected, Applicants submit that this indication is in error, and that claim 4 contains allowable subject matter, as indicated in paragraph 7 of the Office Action Summary sheet and page 7 of the Detailed Action portion of the Office Action.

Without acquiescing to the appropriateness of the rejection, Applicants herewith amend objected to claims 5 and 7 to advance the prosecution of the present application by placing them in independent form, including substantially all the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening claim 2. Applicants further cancel claims 2 and 3, and revise claims 4 and 6 to depend from

amended claim 5 and claim 8 to depend from amended claim 7. Thus, Applicants submit it is not necessary to discuss the rejection of claims 2 and 3.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 9-18 and 20-22. According to a feature of the present invention, an ink jet printer has nozzle holes to eject ink. The ink is UV curable by an ultraviolet light. The ink jet apparatus includes a UV LED as the light source to emit UV light towards the ink ejected onto a recording medium (e.g., paper). As shown in Fig. 3 and discussed at paragraph [0139] of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2006-0007290 of Applicants' drawings, the light source includes a case 8. The case 8 has a light emitting surface that is transparent on the side proximate the recording medium.

In rejecting claims 9-18 and 20-22, the Examiner asserts that case 9 of the '227 SUZUKI et al. patent corresponds to Applicants' case 8. Applicants respectfully traverse this assertion. Applicants submit that case 9 of the '227 SUZUKI et al. patent fails to disclose or suggest that the case has a transparent surface to emit light, as is taught by Applicant's invention.

By the current amendment, Applicants amend claim 1 to include the subject matter of claim 9, and additionally to clarify that the ultraviolet light emitting diodes is applied via a transparent light guiding member to the ink attached to the recording medium. Applicants submit that at least this feature is lacking from the '227 SUZUKI et al. patent.

In order to set forth a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102, each and every feature recited in a claim must be disclosed in a single reference. Since at least the transparent guiding member is not disclosed by the '227 SUZUKI et al. patent, Applicants submit that claims 9-18 and 20-22 are not anticipated by the '227 SUZUKI et al. patent. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection and an indication of the allowability of claims 9-18 and 20-22.

Applicants also respectfully traverse the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 13, 17 and 18 as being obvious over U.S. Patent 6,786,589 to SUZUKI et al. As with the above-discussed rejection, Applicants submit that the '589 patent to SUZUKI et al. merely disclose a opening in case 9, and fails to disclose or suggest a transparent surface, as taught by Applicants' invention. Thus, Applicants submit that even if one attempted to modify the '589 SUZUKI et al. patent in the manner suggested by the Examiner, one would fail to arrive at the presently claimed invention, as such a modification would fail to at least include light from an ultraviolet light emitting diode being applied via a transparent light guiding member to the ink attached to the recording medium. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 13, 17 and 18 are not obvious over the '589 SUZUKI et al. patent. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this ground of rejection and to indicate the allowability of claims 13, 17 and 18.

Applicants also submit new claims 52-56 for the Examiner's consideration. Applicants submit that these claims are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to indicate the allowability of newly added claims 52-56.

SUMMARY

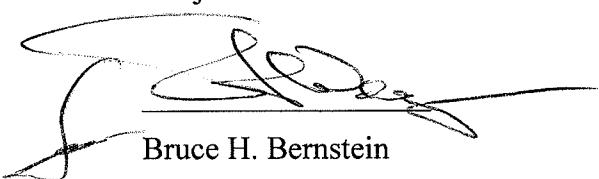
In view of the fact that none of the art of record, whether considered alone or in combination, discloses or suggests the present invention as now defined by the pending claims, and in further view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the Examiner's action and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested and are believed to be appropriate.

Should the Commissioner determine that an extension of time is required in order to render this response timely and/or complete, a formal request for an extension of time, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), is herewith made in an amount equal to the time period required to render this response timely and/or complete. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required extension of time fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

If there should be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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